Kuttoor Bridge.

295. *MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether representations have been received from the people of Paravoor, Quilon, by the Government or the P. W. D., praying that the Kuttoor bridge be repaired and made traffic-worthy; and

(*b*) whether any action has been taken in the matter?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) No.

(*b*) An estimate for renewing the platform was sanctioned, but the same is undergoing revision as on dismantling the platform, it was found that the C. I. piles below the water level are considerably damaged. A temporary ferry service is being conducted at the place.

Puthenkadavu in Paravoor.

296. *MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether representations have been made by the people of Paravoor, Quilon, praying that the *Puthankadavu* be repaired; and

(*b*) whether any action has been taken in the matter?

MR. I. C. CHACKO: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Estimate for the work was prepared but the scheme has not been worked out as the owners of the lands required were unwilling to surrender them free of cost.

Audit of the Ceramic Factory.

297. *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Ceramic Factory was audited in 1114 and 1115; and

(*b*) if so, the result of the audit?

MR. R. RAMA VARIER (*Deputy Accountant-General in charge of the duties of the Financial Secretary*): (*a*) Yes, in 1115.

(*b*) Certain defects were noticed in audit. Action has been taken to rectify them.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: With reference to answer to part (*b*) may I know what is the nature of the defects and what action was taken to rectify them?

MR. R. RAMA VARIER: All the necessary registers had not been opened or completed. Instructions were issued to open and complete the registers. Then again sufficient details were not being furnished in the measurement books. In this connection I may say that the Ceramic Expert had no competent Accountants with him at the time. Government have since, as desired by him, appointed competent and trained Accountants for the Ceramic Factory.

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MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know from the honourable member whether in every other respects everything is going on well?

MR. R. RAMA VARIER: I cannot understand what the other respects are.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Sir, the honourable member was saying that certain defects were found and they were being rectified. What I want to know is, whether in every other respects he was quite satisfied with the audit.

MR. R. RAMA VARIER: It is not a matter for one's personal satisfaction. The audit of accounts for 1114 disclosed certain defects and they were asked to be rectified. There was also a recent audit and the report is awaited.

Settlement of the labour question.

298. * MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend to hold a conference of the representatives of the labour, and those of the employers for the settlement of the labour question and if so when?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: No.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: May I know, Sir, whether it is not the opinion of the honourable member that the labour question demands an immediate enquiry and settlement in the interests of both the labour and the employers?

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: It is a matter of opinion, Sir.

PRESIDENT: In what locality is the enquiry to be conducted?

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Regarding the general condition of labour in every locality.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. There was some dispute at Alleppey which was settled fortunately by mutual adjustments. There threatened to be a dispute in Shertallai, as to which the Director of Industries is taking some steps. When and where disputes arise Government make up their mind as to whether it is necessary for them to intervene or whether they should ask the people to intervene.

MR. C. KUMARA DAS: Enquiries are being made whenever difficulties are pointed out. But the question of holding a conference is not being considered now.

Results of Public Examinations.

299. MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR (*Karunagapalli* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of students who appeared for the E. S. L. C. and M. H. Examinations respectively from the Government managed high schools in 1116;

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